



For Immediate Release

Contact: Megan Benfatti
703-684-3200
MBenfatti@yellowbuses.org

September 12, 2013

**NSTA President Joins Strong Start, Bright Future
Back-To-School Bus Tour**

TUCSON, AZ- On September 11, 2013, the American School Bus Council (ASBC), of which the National School Transportation Association (NSTA) is a member, participated in U.S. Secretary of Education Arne Duncan's Strong Start, Bright Future back-to-school bus tour across the southwest. The tour stopped in Tucson, Arizona, yesterday and Secretary Duncan was joined by U.S. Secretary of Transportation Anthony Foxx and members of the American School Bus Council, including NSTA's President Tim Flood.

Secretaries Duncan and Foxx stopped at the Unified Tucson School District's bus yard and spoke to school bus drivers, mechanics and dispatchers about the importance of transportation in education and school safety. The Secretaries then boarded a school bus as it went on its route, picking up students and arriving in time for class at Dodge Traditional Magnet School.

Secretaries Duncan and Foxx, speaking to reporters, noted the importance of the school bus in education but also in community service, recognizing the role school buses play in emergency evacuations.

"We thank Secretaries Duncan and Foxx for their recognition of the vital contribution school buses make to education for all students and we commend Secretary Foxx, in particular, for his acknowledgement that school buses are the safest form of transportation available. The partnership between the Departments of Education and Transportation, with the yellow school bus linking the two, is of vital importance to the school transportation industry and we look forward to continuing this partnership in the days and years to come," stated NSTA President Tim Flood.

####

About NSTA:

The National School Transportation Association has been the voice of private school bus contractors, manufacturers and suppliers for more than 40 years. The association provides school transportation professionals with the tools and resources they need to make school buses safe, affordable, and efficient nationwide. Additional questions can be sent to Megan Benfatti at

MBenfatti@yellowbuses.org. Offices are at 122 South Royal Street, Alexandria, VA 22314. Phone: 703-684-3200. Fax: 703-684-3212. Email: www.yellowbuses.org.

About ASBC:

The American School Bus Council is a coalition of the school transportation community that includes public and private transportation providers, school bus manufacturers and state officials responsible for pupil transportation. Council members are committed to providing safe, effective, efficient and healthy transportation for the more than 25 million schoolchildren who ride more than 480,000 school buses each day. The Council's members include NSTA (National School Transportation Association), NAPT (National Association for Pupil Transportation), NASDPTS (National Association of State Directors of Pupil Transportation Services), Blue Bird Corp. of Fort Valley, Ga., IC Bus Corporation of Lisle, Ill., and Thomas Built Buses of High Point, N.C. Additional questions can be sent to Markus Videnieks at markus@americanschoolbuscouncil.com.